HIGHLIGHTS FOR BIGHEADS ALA Annual meeting, June 2005

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NAME CHANGE

The University of Texas General Libraries officially became the University of Texas Libraries in Sept. 2004. The NACO heading was established in March after we finally received a publication with the new name.

RETIREMENTS

As I mentioned in January, Abazar Sepehri, Middle Eastern Studies Librarian, will be retiring August 31, 2005.

RECRUITMENT

Professional recruitment continues to be very active. Tim Strawn will begin as the Head of Cataloging and Metadata Services on August 1. Previously, he was the Geospatial Resources Cataloger at Harvard. Interviews are scheduled before and after ALA for the Head of Reference and Information Services. We have re-posted the opening for the Middle East Studies Librarian as our first attempt was unsuccessful. We are also about to post an opening for a Head of Serials and Electronic Resources.

RETROSPECTIVE CONVERSION

On March 2, our recon coordinator, Al Rogers, wrote "OCLC has finished the last phase of our last recon project.....a little bit into the 19th year after we began in 1987, and some 1,173,788 records later--I am pleased to say that the UT Libraries is converted."

RELOCATION OF UNDERGRADUATE BOOK COLLECTION

As many of you have seen, we are moving the book collection out of the Flawn Academic Center which housed the undergraduate library. The space is being refitted to an expanded 24 hour information/learning commons with more computers and more comfortable seating. Services to students will be shared by seven partners: the University of Texas Libraries, the Division of Instructional Innovation and Assessment, the Rhetoric and Composition unit of the College of Liberal Arts, Information Technology Services, the Writing Center and the School of Information. The books are currently being relocated to other libraries on campus. A small reference collection will remain in the Flawn Academic Center.

SINGLE RECORD APPROACH

We are actually considering undoing our decision to keep all our serial formats on one record.